

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – *Written by Linda S Trapasso*

Were you one of those kids that loved Jewish summer camp? Then this article is for you! Let's take a walk down memory lane.

What was the best part of camp for you? Getting away from home? Meeting up with friends from last summer? Singing *ruach* songs out in the woods by the lake? Learning new crafts? Playing sports? Learning *birkat hamazon* by heart? Waiting for care packages from home? Trying new things you would never do at home? Your first summer romance? Being a summer camp counselor at the camp you attended?

Everyone has their special stories about Jewish summer camp. And everyone loves to tell them, especially to their own kids. Well, maybe not all, but many of them. Perhaps you're sending your kids to the same camp you went to. I'm sure you've discovered that the camps all have web sites now, like [Camp Ramah](#) in New England, [Camp Modin](#) in Maine (the oldest Jewish summer camp in New England!), 6Points URJ summer camps and [Camp Tevya](#), [Camp Yavneh](#), and Camp Young Judea all in NH. These are just a few of the many Jewish summer camps, but maybe one of them is YOUR camp!

My Jewish Learning offers a [brief history](#) on the institution of Jewish summer camps in the US. It was about more than getting kids out of cities in the summer and the purposes for Jewish summer camp evolved over time.



How did you feel about Jewish summer camp in the years after you attended? If you attended camp in the 1980s, then you'll enjoy [this article](#) at the Tablet: "Thirteen Signs That You May Have Attended Jewish Summer Camp in the 1980s." I was laughing just looking at the photos in the article. The Huffington Post shares "[34 Life Lessons You Learn At Jewish Summer Camp](#)". Did you learn any of these lessons at camp? And don't forget to read the comments, too!

At The Tower, Aiden Pink wrote the article "[Was My Jewish Summer Camp Trying to Indoctrinate Me?](#)" He shares many of his memories about camp and what he experienced during his camp time. You may find some similarities to your own camping experience. Be sure to check out the link to the results of a Jewish summer camp survey (in the second half of the article). And the answer to the question is yes!

Do you know anyone famous who attended Jewish summer camp? Want to guess? You learned about some of them if you read Pink's article. If you're not into guessing, check out "9 famous Jews who attended Jewish summer camp" at the [Jewish Telegraphic Agency](#).

So that's the wrap up for Jewish summer camp memories. I hope you have great memories of your time at Jewish summer camp! It's a good thing.

